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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE PATENT APPLICATION OF:

TAKASHI SHINRIKI ET AL.

U.S. SERIAL No.: 10/527,214

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Commissioner for Patents
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to calculation of the claim filing fees and to examination of this application, the following Amendments and Remarks are submitted. It is requested that the following amendments be entered, and that the Examiner pass this application to allowance.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 6 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 10 of this paper.